

**To: Members of the State Board of  
Education & Early Development**

**December 8, 2022**

**From: Heidi Teshner, Acting Commissioner**

**Agenda Item: 11B**

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**◆ ISSUE**

The board is being asked to open a period of public comment on regulations related to the qualification and certification of Alaska educators.

**◆ BACKGROUND**

- The proposed regulation is in response to the statutory changes to teacher certification requirements made by Senate Bill (SB) 20 Out-of-State Teacher Reciprocity that was signed into law on September 4, 2022 (Chapter 69, SLA 2022). The effective date of this new law is December 3, 2022.
- SB 20 simplified the qualification for experienced teachers holding a valid, regular out-of-state teaching certificate by removing the additional testing requirements and allowing for immediate application for a Professional certificate.
- The proposed regulations require educators to have at least two years of teaching experience in addition to the valid, regular out-of-state teaching certificate to qualify for the Professional certificate and provides a timeline for satisfying the Alaska studies/Alaska multicultural coursework and mandatory training requirements.
- To streamline the application process for spouses of active military members, the proposed regulations describe the documentation that will be needed in addition to the Professional Out-of-State teacher application to receive expedited processing by the department.
- The proposed regulations can be found behind Agenda Item 7B.
- Susan McKenzie, Director of the Division of Innovation and Education Excellence; Sondra Meredith, Administrator of Teacher Education and Certification; and Susan Sonneborn, Assistant Attorney General, will be present to brief the board

**◆ OPTIONS**

Open a period of public comment on the proposed regulation.

Amend the proposed regulation and open a period of public comment.

Seek more information.

**◆ ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION**

Open a period of public comment on the proposed regulation changes.

**◆ SUGGESTED MOTION**

I move the State Board of Education and Early Development open a period of public comment on the amendment of 4 AAC.12.305 Teacher certificate (initial, professional, master) and 4 AAC 12.900 Definitions.